



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

April 14, 2008

Reply To
Attn Of: ETPA-088

Ref.: 06-070-AFS

Tom Reilly, Forest Supervisor
Clearwater National Forest
12730 U.S. Highway 12
Orofino, ID 83544

Dear Mr. Reilly:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and the Record of Decision (ROD) for **Cherry Dinner Project** (CEQ No. 20080082) on Palouse Ranger District of the Clearwater National Forest in Latah County, ID. Our review was conducted in accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

In our comments on the draft EIS in June 2006, EPA expressed environmental concerns with the project based on potential water quality impacts affecting temperature and sediment levels in streams that are on the state of Idaho's current 303(d) list due water quality standards exceedences for these parameters. We also recommended that missing or unclear information be provided in the FEIS.

We are pleased to see that the FEIS includes thoughtful and thorough responses to our comments. In particular, we appreciate the additional, updated water quality information provided in the FEIS and Appendix K. EPA supports the collaborative efforts among agencies and the Nez Perce Tribe to develop and implement TMDLs, to share monitoring information and to coordinate activities. We also appreciate other changes made to the EIS between draft and final using comments received from agencies and the public. Your responses address our concerns.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the final EIS and Record Of Decision (ROD) for this project. If you have questions or comments concerning this review, please contact Theo Mbabaliye at (206) 553-6322 or me at (206) 553-1601.

Sincerely,

/s/

Christine B. Reichgott, Manager
NEPA Review Unit

cc:
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Nez Perce Tribe